ALLOTMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN
for the
SMOOT LAKE/MORITZ LAKE
ALLOTMENTS

CHALENDER RANGER DISTRICT
KAIBAB NATIONAL FOREST
COCONINO COUNTY, ARIZONA

January, 1994

Prepared By Donald D. Richards — District Range Staff — 1-20-94 — Date

Agreed to By _____ — Nagiller and Sons, Inc. — _____ — Date

Approved By Dan Nalchyp — District Ranger — 1-20-94 — Date

Smoot Lake/Moritz Lake Allotments Management Plan
Chalender Ranger District
Kaibab National Forest

January, 1994

A. INTRODUCTION

The Smoot Lake and Moritz Lake Allotments are located in the northern part of the Chalender Ranger District, approximately 19 miles north of Williams, Arizona. These are two separate and adjacent allotments that are being managed together in this plan. The allotments contain 67,616 total acres, of which 66,499 acres are National Forest land. There are about 1750 acres, of the Moritz Lake Allotment, within the Kendrick Mountain Wilderness Area.

The allotments can generally be characterized as an upland plain interpersed with isolated volcanic mountains and hills. Elevations range from 6,250 feet at Spring Valley Wash and the Forest boundary to 10,418 feet at the summit of Kendrick Mountain. The vegetation includes coniferous forest, pinyon-pine and one-seed juniper woodlands and open grasslands with interspersed browse species. Allen, Smoot, and Moritz Lakes are shallow, seasonal lakes within the allotments. The climate is considered semi-arid; total precipitation varies from less than 15 inches in the lower elevations of the Smoot Lake Allotment, to about 22 inches annually in the higher elevations of the Moritz Lake Allotment.

Currently, Nagiller and Sons, Inc. has a Term Grazing Permit to graze 355 adult cattle yearlong and 300 yearling cattle from 1/1 to 10/31. The permittee substitutes four horses for five adult cattle, so actual stocking is 350 adult cattle. The current yearlong grazing operation includes a cow/bull herd and a herd of weaned calves (yearlings) that are carried over and permitted for 10 months (January 1 to October 31). Calving generally occurs in March and April. Bulls are removed from the cow herd for three months in the spring. The allotment is currently managed under a deferred rotation grazing system using all 17 pastures.

The preparation of this allotment management plan (AMP) began with a mid-level "Forest Plan Implementation Analysis (FPIA)" process. This process of broad focus analysis led to development of a desired future condition (DFC) for the management area where the allotments are found. The DFC approach attempts to integrate the management goals of the Forest Plan and focus on overall ecological interrelationships. District resource personnel, in developing a DFC, made use of the Terrestrial Ecosystem Survey (TES), a soil, climate, and topographical inventory. TES is a valuable aid in determining, where, on a successional plane, from the current community to potential natural community, to manage the desired vegetative community. Public involvement was solicited and included from its beginning in the FPIA process, and through development of the allotment management plan . The Smoot/Moritz AMP Interdisciplinary Team tiered back to the DFC developed for the various vegetation types, and the public responses, in its preparation of the AMP.

B. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Goals

This plan meets the goals, standards and guidelines contained in the Kaibab National Forest Plan (KNFP). These are:

1) Produce the maximum amount of forage, consistent with other resource values, for use by wildlife and livestock on a sustained yield basis. Benefits are improved watershed conditions, range forage, wildlife habitat, and enhanced visual quality (KNFP, p.16).

2) Improve habitats for listed threatened, endangered, or sensitive species of plants and animals and other species as they become threatened or endangered. Work towards recovery and delisting of species (KNFP, p.15).

3) Manage livestock use in wilderness to maintain an enduring, high quality resource, while providing for quality wilderness recreation experiences (KNFP, p.15).

4) Balance permitted use with grazing capacity on all allotments by the end of the Forest Plan period (KNFP, p.51, Amendment 2).

From these goals a Desired Future Condition (DFC) for the various vegetation types was described. The DFC for Management Area 3 and for the allotments, which was developed from these and other goals identified in the Environmental Assessment (Alternative 5) and the "Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact for the Revision of the Smoot/Moritz AMP," are the guiding documents for the allotments.

There are four distinct grassland ecotypes identified on the Smoot-Moritz Allotments, based on the potential of the soils and on climatic factor influences. These types are: Mixed Shrubland/Grasslands, Grassland/Pinyon-Juniper Woodlands, Grassland/Ponderosa pine and/or Ponderosa pine/Pinyon pine with One-seed or Alligator juniper, and Grassland Types. The existing conditions and DFC for the allotments are:

Mixed Shrubland/Grassland Vegetative Types

These are landscapes on flat to rolling topography associated with calcareous soils. They are located west and north of the range of small hills and mountains (Cedar, Buck, the Hobbles, Ebert, and Red) that bisect the Smoot Lake Allotment.

These landscapes are currently dominated by blue grama, half shrubs (snakeweed and pinque) and shrubs (rubber and green rabbitbrush). Cool season grasses are minor to nonexistent in the composition. Important browse species are decadent with little or no new plants being recruited into the population. Browse species are presently severely browsed. The area is currently producing only a percentage of the potential annual forage production. Forage conditions are fair to very poor at present as determined by plant composition, forage plant frequency, and plant vigor. Range trend is static to down. The ecological condition is an early to mid seral stage.

The DFC for these landscapes is a vegetative community dominated by native warm season grasses and shrubs. The primary grasses will include blue grama and spike muhly. The shrub species, chamiza (four-wing saltbush) and winterfat, will occur in stands throughout the area and be represented by a range of age and size classes. A strong sub-dominant component of this vegetative type will be cool season grasses. The primary cool season grasses will include needle and thread, junegrass, Indian ricegrass, western wheatgrass and galleta. Undesirable half-shrubs and shrubs will be an insignificant component in this landscape.

These shrublands/grasslands will be in mid-fair or better range condition as determined by plant composition, forage frequency and plant vigor. Trend will be static or upward. The ecological condition will be mid to late seral.

Mixed Grassland/Woodland Vegetative Types

These landscapes are located on flat to rolling topography associated with vertic and vertic-integrated soils. They are located south and east of the range of small hills and mountains that bisect the Smoot and Moritz Lakes Allotments.

These landscapes are currently dominated by a size and age class of one-seed juniper that is indicative of recent invasion into grasslands. An understory component consists of blue grama and squirreltail. The area is currently producing only a small percentage of the potential annual forage production. Present forage condition is poor to very poor as determined by plant composition, forage plant frequency, and plant vigor. Range trend is down. The stage of ecological succession is mid seral.

The DFC for these landscapes is a community vegetatively co-dominated by warm and cool season native grass species with scattered mature and over mature pinyon pine and/or alligator juniper trees in a savannah landscape. The warm season species will include blue and side-oats grama, and spike muhly. Cool season species will include junegrass, western wheatgrass, and mutton bluegrass. Half-shrubs and shrubs will be an insignificant component in this vegetation type. A minor component of this area will be the colonies or stands of disturbed rabbitbrush, a Region 3 Sensitive plant species associated with calcareous soils.

These shrubland/grasslands will be in a mid-fair or better range condition as determined by plant composition, forage plant frequency and plant vigor. Trend will be static or upward. The ecological condition will be late seral, perennial grass stage.

Pine/Fringe Pine Vegetation Types

These landscapes, found on both allotments, are currently dominated by ponderosa pine and/or ponderosa pine/pinyon pine with one-seed or alligator juniper. Blue grama, spike muhly, mountain muhly, and Arizona fescue are the dominant herbaceous component. A browse component is suppressed by the overstory in the denser stands of the pine type.

The range condition on these landscapes currently varies from poor to excellent, as determined by plant composition, forage plant frequency, and plant vigor. Trend displays the same variation, from upward to downward. The sites are ecologically in a mid to late seral stage.

These landscapes will be vegetatively dominated by ponderosa pine and/or ponderosa pine/pinyon pine with juniper in a forest aspect. Small openings within the forest will be co-dominated by a warm/cool season herbaceous component. The primary grasses will be Arizona fescue, mountain muhly, spike muhly, junegrass, western wheatgrass, and muttongrass. The browse species mountain mahogony, cliffrose, and ceanothus will be represented in all size and age classes.

These pine vegetation types will be in high-poor or better range condition as determined by plant composition, forage frequency, and forage plant vigor. Trend will be static or upward. The ecological condition will remain mid to late seral.

Grassland Vegetative Types

These are landscapes on flat to rolling topography. They are located south and east of the range of small hills and mountains that bisect the Smoot Allotment.

These landscapes are currently dominated by blue grama with locally dense stands of rubber rabbitbrush. Cool season grasses are a minor component. One-seed juniper is represented by a size and age class that is indicative of recent invasion. The area is currently producing only a small percentage of the potential annual forage production. Forage conditions are poor to very poor as determined by plant composition, forage plant frequency, and plant vigor. Range trend is static to down.

The DFC for these landscapes is a community vegetatively co-dominated by cool and warm season grasses. These grasses will include junegrass, western wheatgrass, squirreltail, blue grama, spike muhly, and other introduced or native species. Annual and perennial forbs will be present, but limited both spatially and in density. Browse shrubs will be present in all size and age classes in inclusions within this area. Rubber rabbitbrush will be an insignificant component to this type.

These grasslands will be in a mid-fair or better range condition as determined by plant composition, forage plant frequency and plant vigor. Trend will be static or upward.

Objectives

An Environmental Assessment (EA) was completed in July, 1993. From the EA the following objectives for these allotments were developed:

1) To maintain an economically viable livestock operation.

2) To increase the number of cool season species (both individuals of a species and species per se) in all Grassland Types on the allotments, with special emphasis on the Mixed Shrubland/Grassland Types.

3) To improve the vigor of individual cool season species in all Grassland Types, with special emphasis on the Mixed Shrubland/Grassland Type.

4) To increase the number of palatable browse species (both individuals of a species and species per se) in the Mixed Shrubland/Grassland Type.

5) To improve the vigor of individual palatable browse species in the Mixed Shrubland/Grassland Type.

6) Maintain (through re-treatment) previous non-structural vegetation treatments, and design new treatments, that are cost effective and promote increased forage diversity.

7) Design a livestock management system that minimizes conflicts in the Kendrick Wilderness.

C. PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

On July 29, 1993, the Chalender District Ranger signed the Decision Notice to revise the Smoot-Moritz Allotment Management Plan and implement Alternative 5. The features of Alternative 5 are described in the EA, marked on the Alternative 5 map, and found in the Decision Notice. This AMP implements that decision.

The implementation of the selected alternative will begin with the start of the 1995 grazing season. On January 1, 1995, the permitted numbers will be 355 head of cattle yearlong to be grazed as one herd. On January 1, 1996, the permitted numbers will be 300 head of cattle yearlong. Heifers or horses can be substituted for cattle, but they will have to be kept and rotated with the cow herd. The term grazing permit will be reissued in 1994 to reflect the terms and conditions of this AMP.

The livestock will be grazed as one herd under a rest-rotation grazing strategy. It will utilize Allen, NE, Red Rock (combined with Everett and Knobs), and Smoot Pastures in a four month (January through April) winter season. It will utilize Antelope, BS, Drip, Lost (combined with Juniper), Moritz (combined with Faye and Marlar), and Rabbit Pastures (with Bull Basin used every other year) in a eight month (May through December) summer season. Starting January 1, 1995, the grazing sequence to be followed each year is detailed on the next page and shown graphically on form R3-2200-19 (see Appendix):

The schedule for pastures used by the bulls during the non-breeding season will be developed in the annual operating plan (horses and replacement heifers, not substituted for cattle, will need to be kept off Forest on private or leased lands). The convalescent herd can be kept in the waterlots and corrals at Allen Lake and Winter Camp; cattle numbers are limited to 15 head.

It is not the intent of this plan to allow livestock to drift between the pastures. The livestock movements between pastures will be completed in five days.

The graze periods are designed to achieve an allowable use of 30 percent in the key areas of the winter-spring pastures on key forage species. An allowable use of 40 percent, in the key areas, has been set for summer pasture, on the key warm-season forage species. The key species for winter-spring pastures will include western wheatgrass, Indian ricegrass, littleseed ricegrass, needle and thread, squirreltail, galleta, junegrass and muttongrass. Summer pasture key species will include spike muhly, blue grama, mountain muhly, Arizona fescue and sideoats grama.

Allowable use on the browse, i.e. 4-wing saltbush, winterfat, and cliffrose, will not exceed 50 percent during the winter period, 35 percent during the spring use period and 30 percent during the summer use period.

Livestock management practices that encourage use in key areas will lead to higher than allowable use and shorter graze periods, or a reduction in numbers. Distribution practices that move use to other areas are desirable.

D. PROBLEMS AND CONFLICTS

There are three Northern Goshawk Territories, entirely or partially within the allotments. Utilization in these territories will not exceed 40 percent and will average 20 percent across the territory. Additional conflicts could arise at water sources which have been identified as riparian areas. Allen Lake is considered a candidate for riparian designation.

E. DISTRIBUTION AIDS

Salt and protein supplements are important tools in achieving livestock distribution. Salt placement and movement will be the responsibility of the permittee. It will not be placed in areas of normal concentration and will be placed away from waters (1/4 mile minimum). Salt placement can be a valuable tool to achieve better livestock distribution. No more than three blocks should be used at one time, in one place, and new locations should be selected to minimize trampling and salt residue damage. Salt boxes or containers are encouraged.

The feeding of hay or other roughage as a supplement is not encouraged, although it is recognized that under some conditions it may be warranted. The use of supplemental feeding may be permitted only with the written consent of the District Ranger and will be documented in the Annual Operating Plan or by letter. The same standards as applied to salt, apply to haying (i.e. move locations frequently, avoid disturbed rabbitbrush, and avoid erosive soils).

Gates to waterlots and/or with a road are to be wired open when cattle leave a pasture at the completion of a pasture graze period.

Water hauling to assist in distribution is encouraged. Temporary water hauls will be moved when desired utilization for the general area is obtained. Haul water locations will avoid areas of disturbed rabbittbrush and erosive soils (see locations identified on the Allotment Management Plan map).

Diligent herding is considered an effective tool in achieving proper utilization levels and patterns, both over the allotment as a whole, and among forage species. When salt is properly used as an aid to distribution, herding may be necessary to indicate salt location to the herd.

F. RANGELAND IMPROVEMENTS

The following improvements are listed, by priority, for development in the order they are presented and shown on the AMP Map found in the Appendix. The Forest Service and the permittee will co-operate in the development of these improvements under a 50-50 cost-share agreement

except as noted. Some projects may be totally funded by the Forest Service or permittee.

Construction of listed improvements will depend upon the availability of Government and/or permittee funds. It is possible that funds may become available from other resource management actions such as watershed, wildlife, or woodland management for development of these improvements.

Map Index #	Project/Location
1	Construct a trick tank with 30,000 gallon steel water storage tank with an approximately 4000 square foot, inverted roof, water harvesting catchment, and drinker equipped with a wildlife escape ramp. Estimated Cost: $20,000.
2	Remove pasture division fences, including cattleguards, between Faye-Moritz and Moritz-Marlar (except upper part south of Tiptop tank and 100 yards of the lower fence in Section 25) and properly dispose of material from the allotment. The FS will remove cattleguards. The permittee will remove and dispose of the fences. FS:$1000; Permittee: $700. Total: $1700.
3	Remove old Webster property fences in SE1/4, SE1/4 Sec 1 and NE1/4, NE1/4 Sec 12, T25N, R4E and properly dispose of materials. The permittee is responsible for the entire project. Permittee: $200.
4	Clean the following dirt tanks and seal with bentonite if necessary:

Name	Cost
(a) Marlar	Labor, Equip: $ 800 Bentonite: $1,200 Total Cost: $2,000
(b) Wild Bill (clean, enlarge)	Labor, Equip: $ 800 Bentonite: $1,200 Total Cost: $2,000
(c) Winter Camp	Labor, Equip: $ 800 Bentonite: $1,200 Total Cost: $2,000
(d) Lonesome Knobs	Labor, Equip: $ 800 Bentonite: $1,200 Total Cost: $2,000
(e) Prong	Labor, Equip: $ 800 Bentonite: $1,200 Total Cost: $2,000
(f) Hibben	Labor, Equip: $ 800 Bentonite: $1,200 Total Cost: $2,000

If funds are available from other resource areas, consider cleaning and sealing, as necessary: Rock, Platten, BS, Caporal, Cement, Potato, and Sheep tanks.

5 Install cattleguard on FR 118 between Smoot-Squaw Mountain Allotments in NE1/4 Sec 7, T24N, R4E. The FS will be responsible for the entire project. FS:$5000.

Livestock Fence Replacement

Map Index #	Name	Improvement No.	Units (mi)	Location	Cost
6	Smoot/Forest Bdy West	001905	2.00	Top of Howard Mesa	Labor: $3,300 Material: $3,300 Total Cost: $6,600
7	Smoot/Moritz Bdy	001912	1.00	North of Spud Hill	Labor: $1,650 Material: $1,650 Total Cost: $3,300
8	Squaw/Moritz Bdy	R01975	2.75	West Bdy Faye Unit	Labor: $4,500 Material: $4,500 Total Cost: $9,000
9	Webster Fence		0.50	East Bdy to Old Webster Prop. N of Hwy 180	Labor: $ 850 Material: $ 850 Total Cost: $1,700
10	NE/Allen Div Fence	001932	3.00	NE/Allen Units	Labor: $4,950 Material: $4,950 Total Cost: $9,900

Forage Improvement (pinyon-juniper treatments/re-treatments--hand cutting or mechanical pushing)

Map Index #	Location Pasture	Acres	Remarks	Cost
11	Smoot	172	re-treat.	Labor/Equip: $8,600 ($50/Ac) FS Support: $1,720 ($10/Ac) Total Cost: $10,320
12	NE	263	re-treat.	Labor/Equip: $13,150 ($50/Ac) FS Support: $ 2,630 ($10/Ac) Total Cost: $15,780
13	Platten, BS Knobs and Red Rock	259	re-treat.	Labor/Equip: $12,950 ($50/Ac) FS Support: $ 2,590 ($10/Ac) Total Cost: $15,540
14	Lost, Drip	679	re-treat.	Labor/Equip: $33,950 ($50/Ac) FS Support: $ 6,790 ($10/Ac) Total Cost: $40,740
15	Rabbit/Moritz	1035	new treat.	Labor/Equip: $51,750 ($50/Ac) FS Support: $10,350 ($10/Ac) Total Cost: $62,100

Additional Improvements

These items, identified by the permittee, were not analyzed in the EA. NEPA documentation will be required prior to implementation.

Map Index #	Project	Units	Cost
16	Hawkins Tank (develop water on Forest side)	1	Labor/Equip: $1,500
17	Lost Spring Tank (enlarge)	1	Labor/Equip: $ 500
18	Rabbit Tank (enlarge)	1	Labor/Equip: $ 500
19	Develop earthen tank near Jct FR 707 & 118	1	Labor/Equip: $1,800
20	P/J re-treat, Smoot	118 Ac	Labor/Eq: $ 5,900 ($50/Ac) FS Support: $ 1,180 ($10/Ac) Total Cost: $ 7,080
21	P/J re-treat, N of Hibben Tank	213 Ac	Labor/Eq: $10,650 ($50/Ac) FS Support: $ 2,130 ($10/Ac) Total Cost: $12,780
22	P/J re-treat, Allen Unit	834 Ac	Labor/Eq: $41,700 ($50/Ac) FS Support: $ 8,340 ($10/Ac) Total Cost: $50,040
23	P/J new treat, W of Hibben Tank (Sec 19 & 20)	182 Ac	Labor/Eq: $ 9,100 ($50/Ac) FS Support: $ 1,820 ($10/Ac) Total Cost: $10,920
24	P/J new treat, E of Allen Lake (Sec 9 & 10)	202 Ac	Labor/Eq: $10,100 ($50/Ac) FS Support: $ 2,020 ($10/Ac) Total Cost: $12,120

Maintenance of the rangeland improvements are the responsibility of the permittee as shown on the improvement listing (see Appendix). In general, all improvements assigned to and used by the permittee, must be inspected at least once a year and maintained in a workable condition. Maintenance includes providing materials needed for repairs. Specific maintenance needs will be documented in the annual operating plan. All improvements are to be maintained to the standards of their original construction. Improvement maintenance standards can be found in the Appendix.

Any time heavy equipment (i.e. "Cat" or tractor), that may result in ground disturbance, is to be used for maintenance or construction of a range improvement, approval from the District Office must be received in writing. Occasionally, cultural clearances are not required to perform the project, such as tank maintenance, though written approval from the District is always required. Contact the District Office prior to any such activities.

The attached map shows the approximate locations of the rangeland improvements with maintenance responsibility underlined in red.

G. MONITORING

Monitoring will be conducted to determine if prescribed management is meeting goals and objectives established in the AMP and Forest Plan. This monitoring will be accomplished through production and utilization (PU) surveys, range analysis and annual inspections according to methods found in the Forest Service, Region 3, Range Allotment Analysis Handbook. Depending on the availability of funds, monitoring will occur periodically unless otherwise indicated, and begin after the adjustment in permitted numbers. The permittee will be invited, and encouraged to participate in all monitoring procedures. The permittee will be notified in writing when formal monitoring such as PU and condition and trend surveys is to take place so they can participate in these procedures.

Range condition and trend analysis will be monitoried in five year intervals and occur only within those clusters that represent key areas. Trend in range condition is identified through range inspection monitoring conducted annually.

Photo points will be mutually selected over the allotment to help monitor change over time.

At least once during the grazing season, an allotment inspection will be conducted. The inspection will consist of livestock counts, general forage and browse production and utilization estimates, livestock distribution, use of water control, placement of salt or supplements, condition of rangeland improvements, vegetative condition and trend, general management needs, and soil and watershed conditions. Trend in weaning weights can also be monitored, if the permittee wishes to make the records available.

During the course of project activities or the development or maintenance of rangeland improvements range management specialists, watershed specialists, and others will ensure that Best Management Practices (BMPs) are implemented according to plan. BMP monitoring is done before, during, and after the implementation of any resource activity believed to impact soil and watershed stability.

Additional Monitoring

Additional monitoring which will occur on the Smoot-Moritz Allotments includes:

1) Annual monitoring of the elk population in Game Management Unit 7 by the Arizona Game & Fish Department (ongoing).

2) Periodic monitoring of occupancy and productivity of goshawks whose home ranges include Smoot-Moritz.

3) Monitoring of utilization of forage and browse by herbivores within goshawk home ranges.

4) Monitoring for disturbed rabbitbrush, a sensitive plant species found on the allotments. This will consist of continuing a study of a point site on the allotment that was initiated in 1988. Measurements include: a) # live plants/ recently dead plants/old carcasses; b) measurements of plant length, plant width, plant

height, growth rate (length of current year's stems), # stems per plant, and the # of flower heads per plant. Seedling recruitment will also be assessed. Monitoring will occur periodically on randomly-placed plots five square meters in size.

If at any point in time it is determined, through monitoring, that objectives are not being met, or that changes otherwise need to be made, the necessary adjustments in management should be made as soon as possible.

Adjustments may consist of minor amendments to complete revisions and/or development of a completely new plan. This could mean the adjustment of livestock numbers upward or downward.

H. ANNUAL OPERATING PLAN

This plan will be supplemented each year by an annual meeting and documented in the Annual Operating Plan (AOP). The AOP will direct grazing management for the year as well as specific maintenance needs, new construction, and other management activities.

I. APPENDIX

1. Allotment Management Plan Map
2. Improvement Listing and Maintenance Responsibility
3. Improvement Maintenance Standards
4. Form R3 2200-19, Grazing Schedule

IMPROVEMENT MAINTENANCE STANDARDS

All improvements are to be maintained to the standard of their original construction. Any specific needs for deviations or modifications from these Maintenance Standards will be addressed in the Annual Operating Plan.

Improvements are to be maintained in the first units of the allotment to be grazed before the on-date specified in Part I of the Term Grazing Permit or the Annual Operating Plan, if different from the Term Grazing Permit. Improvements on subsequent units are to be maintained prior to scheduled movement of livestock into the unit(s). The Forest Service may wish to inspect improvements prior to turn-out or movement to the next pasture. Inform the Forest Service adequately in advance of turn-out or pasture moves, when the improvements will be ready for inspection.

Improvements should be maintained in years of total nonuse and total rest in order to maintain their longevity. This includes putting up and taking down let-down fences. Waters that are authorized to be turned off at the end of the use period are to be maintained and turned on at the beginning of the grazing season and off at the end of the grazing season, even in years of non use or total rest.

Maintenance includes providing materials needed for repairs.

A. Refuse

Remove all refuse originating from range improvement maintenance from the National Forest. This includes old posts, wire, stays, troughs, head boxes, pipe, tanks, or any other material resulting from improvement maintenance.

B. Fence Maintenance Standards

WIRE

Splice broken wires. Use the same guage wire and the same spacing as in the original construction.

Take excess slack out of wire with a wire stretcher at the nearest brace, rather than by twisting with a stick, etc.

Replace damaged or missing clips and stays.

Drive staples, where used, to a point where wire can still slide through them. In most cases 1.5 inch staples should be used.

POSTS

Replace rotten or damaged wood posts, and broken steel posts.

Straighten or replace bent steel posts.

Good posts that have settled to within two inches of the top wire should be reset. Good posts that are leaning unreasonabley should be straightened and re-tamped.

Replace entire sections of fence when they become unserviceable.

BRACES

Replace missing brace wires.

Tighten loose brace wires.

Replace rotten wooden brace posts where used.

Straighten and re-tamp all brace posts that are leaning unreasonably.

Reset and re-tamp brace posts that have settled to within two inches of the top fence wire.

Replace missing or broken brace post clamps on EZ brace panels.

Straighten or replace all bent EZ brace panels. Replace all broken EZ brace panels.

CLEARING

Fallen trees and debris should be removed from fence lines.

LET-DOWN FENCES

Let-down fences will be put up before the beginning of the grazing season and taken down at the end of the grazing season.

The let-down design of the fence will be maintained. Retighten loose wire of let-down spans, replace broken stays, replace missing staples or wire loops.

C. Water Development Maintenance Standards

SPRINGS

Remove sediment and foreign objects from the headbox.

Repair or replace damaged headbox covers.

Repair or replace down, or damaged fence around springs.

A galvanized screen should be kept on the intake pipe in the head box. Replace or repair as needed.

Waters that are authorized to be turned off at the end of the grazing season are to be turned on at the beginning of the grazing season and off at the end of the grazing season. Other waters are to be left on all the time.

IMPROVEMENT MAINTENANCE STANDARDS-Con't.

PIPELINES

Replace cracked or broken pipe.

Clean plugged pipelines. Assure pressure relief pipes are operable.

Drain pipe should be kept open, operating, and capable of draining overflow away from trough at least 20 feet.

TROUGHS

Clean out sediment from troughs.

Repair and clean overflows and float valves.

Level and reset troughs when livestock can't reach water on any one side, or when water flows over the side of a trough.

Tar troughs when rust starts to show.

Replace broken trough braces.

Maintain wildlife access and escape ramps to original standard.

STOCK PONDS AND RESERVOIRS

Clean stockwater ponds and spillways of debris, dead animals, etc.

Clean siltation from ponds when it builds to one half the capacity of the pond.

TRICK TANK CATCHMENTS

If catchment is fenced, maintain fence according to fence maintenance standards listed above.

Assure tin on catchments is securely anchored. Missing or loose nails or screws are to be replaced or reset.

Tar should be used to seal seams where tin overlaps, if the wind tends to lift the tin.

Headbox screens are to be kept clean. Headbox is to be operating correctly.

Carrier pipe from headbox to storage tank is to be maintained according to Pipeline Standards listed above. Damaged, settled, or broken tressels holding carrier pipe above ground are to be repaired or replaced. If carrier pipe is not level, tressels are to be reset.

IMPROVEMENT MAINTENANCE STANDARDS-Con't.

Storage Tanks

Tanks are to be maintained so they do not leak.

Paint over exterior rust spots with rust preventing paint of a color acceptable to the District Ranger.

Tar inside of tanks when they start showing signs of interior rust.

Repair or replace all leaky or broken valves.

D. Cow Camps

Cabins, trailers, and sheds are to be maintained to present a neat, maintained appearance, be structurally sound, and functionally operable.

Roofs are to be maintained to not leak, using similar materials to original construction.

Glass or plastic windows are to be functional. Replace broken glass or plastic.

Doors are to be operational, snug fitting, and straight on their hinges.

All refuse from use or maintenance of the camp is to be removed from the National Forest in a timely manner, so as to present a neat appearance and to prevent pests from being attracted to the area.

Remove unused facilities from the National Forest.

E. Corrals and Water Lots

These are considered fences and are to be maintained according to Fence Maintenance Standards listed above.

AMENDMENTS to the ALLOTMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN
of JANUARY 20, 1994
for the
SMOOT LAKE/MORITZ LAKE ALLOTMENTS

INTRODUCTION

On March 7, 1994 Nagiller and Sons Inc., appealed the Smoot Lake/Moritz Lake Allotment Management Plan (AMP). Nancy Cotner, Acting Forest Supervisor for the Kaibab National Forest, concluded that Ranger Gene Waldrip and Chalender Ranger District, should be upheld in the appeal of the AMP (letter of June 17, 1994). Supervisor Cotner, however, directed that three (3) modifications be made in the AMP, based upon concerns expressed by the permittee in the appeal process. As listed on page 8 of the letter of 6/17/94, these modifications are:

1. Add a section to clarify the flexibility of the Plan.

2. Clarify that Marlar Tank will not be reconstructed if you can provide a long-term lease (10 yrs. or more) to the water on private land.

3. Clarify the time allowed to move livestock between pastures and to carry that clarification into Annual Operating Plans.

Following Acting Supervisor Cotner's decision, Nagiller and Sons Inc., pursued their right of appeal to the Regional level. John Kirkpatrick, Acting Deputy Regional Forester for Resources, was the Reviewing Officer. Mr. Kirkpatrick also upheld the AMP as signed by Ranger Waldrip. However, he modified the decision "to allow up to three years to fully implement the decision with yearly incremental reductions to begin January 1, 1995 (letter of 8/8/94)." Kirkpatrick further directed that the amount and timing of reduction be subject to negotiation between the District Ranger and the permittee.

Pursuant to the direction provided by the Acting Forest Supervisor and Reviewing Officer at the Regional level, two meetings with the Nagillers have taken place. On September 15, 1994 Ranger Waldrip and Rangeland Mgmt. Specialist Thomas Matza met with Bill, Earl and John Nagiller. The result of that meeting was agreement on the schedule for the implementation of the livestock reduction. Amendments to the AMP were also discussed, and it was determined that a second meeting was needed before the new permit could be issued. The schedule for livestock reduction shall be outlined in Amendment #4.

On November 22, 1994, a second meeting was held. Draft copies of both the Amendments to the AMP, and the Annual Operating Plan for 1995 were presented for discussion. At both meetings, Ranger Waldrip stressed, to the Nagillers, the importance of reaching agreement on these documents and the importance of either signing the new grazing permit or pursuing further legal action--before the expiration of the current permit.

Therefore, as a result of these meetings and the AMP modifications produced by the appeal process, it is proposed that the Allotment Management Plan for the Smoot Lake/Moritz Lake Allotments be amended as follows:

Amendment #1

The following clause shall be added to Section C. of the AMP:

> This plan outlines the overall management direction for the allotments; however, the plan's implementation has to be flexible to accomodate changing situations. Variables, such as; drought, fire, economic considerations, and other unforeseen events, requires that adaptiveness be an important management characteristic. When the need for change occurs, the Forest Service and the permittee will work cooperatively and use the Annual Operating Plan (AOP) for documentation.

Amendment #2

Marlar Tank has proven to be unreliable. The water needs for this area have apparently been served by a tank on the private land west of Marlar Tank. Chalender district needs assurance that a reliable source of water will continue to exist into the foreseeable future, therefore, either Marlar Tank must be reconstructed, or a long-term lease secured for the private-land tank.

Amendment #2 then shall read: Upon receipt of a copy of a lease agreement of 10 years or more, for the un-named private tank, Marlar Tank shall be deleted from the list of tanks scheduled for maintenance or reconstruction (Smoot/Moritz AMP p.8).

Amendment #3

It has been traditional to allow a 10 day window of opportunity (5 days before and 5 days after the scheduled move date) for pasture moves, on this district. This time has been alloted with the recognition that weather or other responsibilities often make it impossible to move livestock on a specific date. It was never intended that this allowance be used as justification to drift livestock into the next pasture, over the course of 10 days.

The Smoot/Moritz Allotment Management Plan shall be amended as follows: Sentence 2, paragraph 2, page 6 of the AMP "The livestock movements between pastures will be completed in 5 days," is hereby struck from the AMP. Time allocated for pasture moves shall be spelled out in the Annual Operating Plan (AOP). The AOP shall be incorporated into the provisions of the Term Permit under a clause in Part 3.

Amendment #4

Paragraph 2, page 5, under Section C., Plan Implementation, is hereby struck from the AMP. The schedule for implementation of the reduction shall be as follows:

January 1, 1995	
*355 Adult Cattle	Jan 1 - Dec 31
200 Yearlings	Jan 1 - Oct 31
January 1, 1996	
*355 Adult Cattle	Jan 1 - Dec 31
100 Yearlings	Jan 1 - Oct 31

Amendment #4, Implementation Schedule, cont.

January 1, 1997
*300 Adult Cattle Jan 1 - Dec 31

*Note: Up to 6 horses may be substituted for Adult Cattle on a 1:1 basis.

Prepared By _____ _____
Rangeland Management Specialist Date

Accepted By _____ _____
Nagiller and Sons, Inc. Date

Approved By _____ _____
District Ranger Date